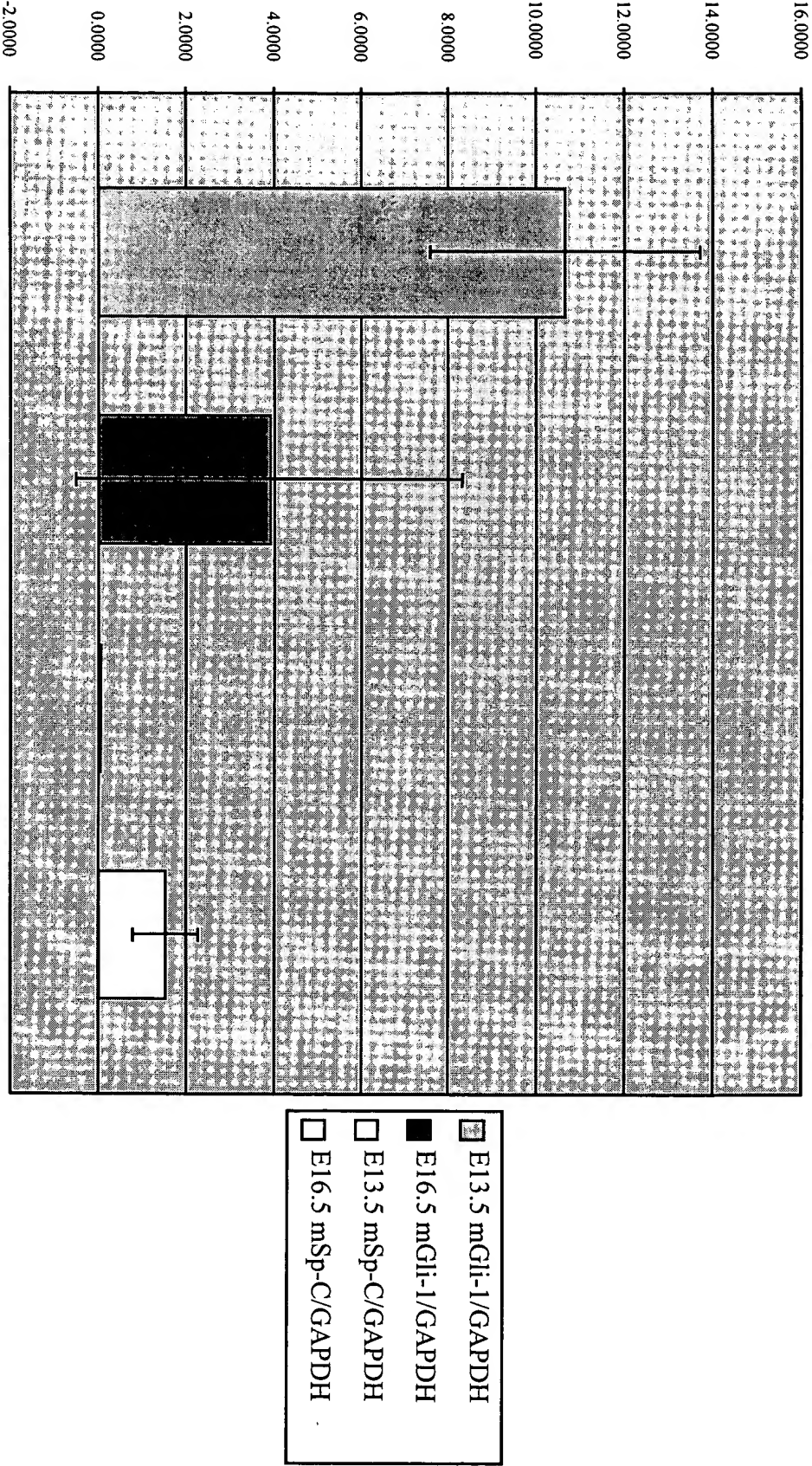


Gli-1 expression is inversely related to lung maturation

(by Quantitative Real-Time PCR))



Between embryonic day 13 and 16, gli-1 expression and hedgehog signaling continue to decline, concomitant with maturation of the respiratory epithelium. Maturation markers such as surfactant type C (Sp-C) are expressed at increasing levels, as hedgehog signaling declines.